

Living joyfully because Jesus lives

John 16:16-24

- I. **I'm leaving for a little while:** Jesus prepared the disciples for the next turbulent days (16:16-18).
 - A. I'll be gone in a little while and then return (16:16).
 - B. The disciples discussed what Jesus meant (16:17-18)

- II. **You'll have grief now and joy later:** The same events bring both grief and joy (16:19-22).
 - A. The disciples would grieve while Jesus' enemies rejoiced but that would soon change (16:19-20).
 - B. Illustration – Birth pangs lead to great joy (16:21).
 - C. The disciples would have joy no one could take away when Jesus rose from the dead (16:22).
 - Full joy comes from Jesus' victory over sin.
 - Joy is relational, as we abide in Christ and deal with our sin (John 15:9-11; 1 John 1:9-11).
 - Joy is internal, as Christ transforms us (John 15:10).
 - God's purpose in pain is to produce great joy.

- III. **Answered prayer:** The Father answers prayer in Jesus name, bringing joy (John 16:23-24).
 - A. Praying in Jesus name: When Jesus leaves, the disciples can pray directly to the Father (16:23).
 - B. Praying with joy: Authentic joy comes as we experience answered prayer (16:24).